STATEMENTS

—OF—

SALMON FISHING

—ON—

THE RIVER MODBAY

1873 to 1875

Prof. J. Horburn
from A. Gilmour

STATEMENTS OF SALMON FISHING

— ON —

THE RIVER GODBOUT,

FROM

1859 to 1875.

Printed by A. S. Woodburn, 42 Elgin Street, Ottawa.

SALMON TAKEN WITH THE ROD

At Godbout River, during the Seasons of 1859 to 1864.

First Fish.	Last Fish.	No. of Fish.	No. of Rods.	Observations.
July 11, 1859.....	July 25....	167	Three.....	Much rain.
June 18, 1860.....	June 27....	47	Two	Dry weather.
June 7, 1861.....	July 24....	252	Four	Much rain—floods.
June 12, 1862.....	July 18....	279	Three.....	2 Grilse.
June 8, 1863.....	July 28....	194	Three.....	Wet weather.
June 18, 1864.....	July 19....	165	Three.....	Fair.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, by four Rods, from 20th June to 14th July, 1865.

Date.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.								Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	Capt. Noble, England.		Alex. Cross, Montreal.		A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		James Law, Montreal.			
	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.		
June 20....	0	0	1	9	0	0	3	26	4*	35
" 21....	0	0	1	8	0	0	6	76	7	84
" 22....	1	9	2	21	0	0	7	69	10	99
" 23....	1	9	0	0	4	34	2	18	7	61
" 24....	0	0	1	7	3	35	4	44	8	86
" 26....	2	17	3	25	3	28	3	34	11	104
" 27....	0	0	5	63	9	83	6	68	20	214
" 28....	5	47	8	75	6	56	9	83	28	261
" 29....	5	47	6	59	6	58	9	81	26	245
" 30....	0	0	6	54	10	87	6	53	22	194
July 1....	0	0	2	13	6	75	9	94	17	182
" 3....	7	79	2	23	9	79	12	127	30	308
" 4....	2	15	16	188	6	56	7	87	31	346
" 5....	5	49	1	8	30	306	8	70	44	433
" 6....	1	10	7	63	6	67	9	106	23	246
" 7....	10	110	3	28	1	8	4	36	18	182
" 8....	0	0	12	127	4	38	10	90	26	255
" 10....	1	11	4	40	46	426	3	24	54	501
" 11....	1	5	4	30	7	68	16	168	28	271
" 12....	8	80	2	19	4	27	6	45	20	171
" 13....	0	0	21	186	0	0	0	0	21	186
" 14....	0	0	2	13	5	36	16	152	23	201
	49	488	109	1059	165	1567	155	1551	478	4665

* One a Kelt,

RECAPITULATION.

Capt. Noble, 49 Fish ..... Weighing 488 lbs.
Alex. Cross, 109 " ..... " 1059 "
A. Gilmour, 165 " ..... " 1567 "
James Law, 155 " ..... " 1551 "

Average Weight of Fish over 9¾ lbs.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at Godbout River, by three Rods, from 18th June to 21st July, 1866.

Date.	Number and Weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.					
	A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		Jas. Law, Montreal.		D. Law, Montr'l, and Mr. Dyke, Scotland.	
	No. Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish.	Weight. Lbs.
June 18	12	122	8	83	4	37
" 19	4	38	11	99	2	29
" 20	14	149	10	106	3	40
" 21	7	73	9	104	5	47
" 22	3	28	7	67	4	31
" 23	6	62	5	46	1	18
" 25	12	161	8	78	3	31
" 26	4	53	6	79	4	34
" 27	5	51	7	79	10	105
" 28	8	80	8	86	6	56
" 29	9	86	7	89	4	40
" 30	7	55	6	62	11	100
July 2	5	37	13	156	5	54
" 3	19	159	4	40	..	..
" 4	2	22	3	29	9	75
" 5	5	48	10	96	3	33
" 6	21	226	3	28	..	..
" 7	..	..	..	..	11	129
" 9	6	59	24	234	..	..
" 10	22	228	4	38	..	..
" 11	..	..	5	47	7	65
" 12	4	36	4	38	1	10
" 13	5	45	2	20	..	..
" 14	..	..	4	41	14	136
" 16	7	67	9	80	..	..
" 17	6	62	..	..	..	..
" 18	..	..	2	23	6	60
" 19	2	18	3	43	..	..
" 20	..	..	1	9	..	..
" 21	..	..	2	22	..	..
	195	1965	185	1922	113	1130
Add Grilse at sundry times.	10	34	13	48	8	26
	205	1999	198	1970	121	1159

493 Salmon ..... Weighing 5017 lbs.
31 Grilse ..... " 108 "

Total 524 ..... Weighing 5125 lbs.

Average Weight of Salmon 10¼ lbs. fully.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, from 11th June to 20th July, 1867.

Date.	Number and Weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.							
	A. Gilmour, Jr., Quebec.		A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		James Law, Montreal.		Rev. Dr. Adamson Ottawa.	
	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.
June 11	1	12	1	11	..	..	..	..
" 12	..	..	..	..	1	9	..	..
" 13	2	23	..	..	1	10	..	..
" 14	..	..	3	38	..	..	..	..
" 15	1	11	..	..	1	10	1	18
" 17	6	65	2	20	..	..	5	52
" 18	4	40	..	..	4	39	2	22
" 19	2	21	1	10	1	18	..	..
" 20	2	21	..	..	4	43	2	21
" 21	3	28	5	54	3	33	2	43
" 22	2	23	7	81	2	26	2	20
" 24	2	19	2	18	5	67	3	32
" 25	10	104	3	32	3	31	2	25
" 26	5	39	2	23	2	22	2	39
" 27	10	113	1	10	1	11	1	12
" 28	..	..	2	21	2	20	4	58
" 29	..	..	5	55	6	61	7	82
July 1	..	..	13	146	6	64	13	129
" 2	..	..	11	158	7	73	6	67
" 3	..	..	10	92	4	52	5	57
" 4	..	..	9	94	7	85	3	35
" 5	..	..	1	10	13	138	3	30
" 6	..	..	21	218	6	67	..	..
" 8	..	..	7	80	7	64	5	64
" 9	..	..	10	101	3	33	1	11
" 10	..	..	2	17	7	64	5	58
" 11	..	..	26	289	3	33	1	10
" 12	..	..	..	..	6	67	2	17
" 13	..	..	2	21	3	30	..	..
" 15	..	..	2	21	6	61	6	66
" 16	..	..	10	102	4	38	2	21
" 17	..	..	4	39	..	..	2	26
" 18	..	..	..	..	4	44	1	14
" 19	..	..	3	27	1	10	..	..
" 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	10
	50	519	165	1788	123	1323	89	1039

A. Gilmour, Jr.,	from 11th to 27th June.....	50 Fish,	weighing	519 lbs
A. Gilmour,	" 11th June to 20th July	165 "	"	1788 "
James Law,	" 11th " to 20th "	123 "	"	1323 "
Rev. Dr. Adamson,	" 11th " to 20th "	89 "	"	1039 "
		427		6669 "

Average 11 lbs.

In addition to the above were caught a number of Kelt, and about 50 Grilse, &c.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, by three rods, from 15th June to 3rd July, 1868 inclusive.

Date.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.						Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		A. Cross, Q.C. Montreal.		W. M. Ramsay, Montreal.			
	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs		
June 15.....	1	14	0	0	0	0	1	14
" 16.....	0	0	1	7	0	0	1	7
" 17.....	2	32	2	18	1	10	5	60
" 18.....	1	14	1	13	0	0	2	27
" 19.....	2	23	1	10	1	13	4	46
" 20.....	2	19	2	22	4	50	8	91
" 22.....	5	57	8	116	4	57	17	230
" 23.....	12	135	3	29	3	30	18	194
" 24.....	6	62	5	55	4	47	15	164
" 25.....	5	54	18	209	3	29	26	292
" 26.....	11	140	4	42	6	61	21	243
" 27.....	23	268	7	71	2	21	32	360
" 29.....	13	154	16	181	7	78	36	413
" 30.....	14	159	5	55	19	201	38	415
July 1.....	1	14	3	32	9	94	13	140
" 2.....	3	34	16	164	1	12	20	210
" 3.....	12	118	1	10	3	32	16	160
Totals....	113	1297	93	1034	67	7[illegible]5	273	3066

RECAPITULATION.

A. Gilmour, Ottawa.....113 Fish..... Weighing 1297 lbs.
A. Cross, Q.C., Montreal.. 93 " ..... " 1034 "
W. M. Ramsay, " .. 67 " ..... " 735 "

Average weight of Fish, $11\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. nearly.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, by four Rods, from 16th June to 17th July, 1869.

Date.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.								Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		John Gilmour, Glasgow.		John Gilmour, Jr. Quebec.		David Law, Montreal.			
	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.		
June 16..	3	33	4	55	2	20	2	19	11	127
" 17..	3	26	3	29	2	18	5	60	13	133
" 18..	0	0	3	44	3	26	0	0	6	70
" 19..	5	51	1	10	5	68	3	30	14	159
" 21..	0	0	3	30	1	12	5	50	9	92
" 22..	1	12	4	49	2	20	1	13	8	94
" 23..	0	0	5	62	2	38	1	9	8	109
" 24..	6	82	4	40	6	67	2	21	18	210
" 25..	1	11	3	47	9	85	0	0	13	143
" 26..	11	107	8	88	9	93	3	29	31	317
" 28..	8	84	6	63			3	30	17	177
" 29..	11	99	8	79			6	71	25	249
" 30..	10	107	20	228	Allan Gilmour, Quebec.		5	56	35	391
July 1..	3	33	5	51			7	73	15	157
" 2..	10	128	8	86	2	17	3	32	23	263
" 3..	1	10	7	69	7	70	14	131	29	280
" 5..	10	92	23	262	6	59	1	8	40	421
" 6..	16	183	7	71	8	88	0	0	31	342
" 7..	6	59	3	34	11	139	0	0	20	232
" 8..	4	43	5	46	5	53	12	113	26	255
" 9..	2	20	14	138	2	22	3	26	21	206
" 10..	12	128	3	28	6	61	2	19	23	236
" 12..	1	10	5	57	11	114	0	0	17	181
" 13..	1	14	1	9	4	44	2	18	8	85
" 14..	0	0	5	69	7	69	0	0	12	138
" 15..	14	135	3	29	5	46	2	20	24	230
" 16..	0	0	0	0	10	109	0	0	10	109
" 17..	0	0	3	33	0	0	5	54	8	87
Total..	139	1467	164	1806	125	1338	87	382	515	5493

In addition to the above about 35 Kelts (an unusual number) were caught during the first few days fishing,—most of which (and when circumstances permitted) were returned to the water. Also, about 250 Sea Trout were taken while fishing for Salmon, of an average weight of 2¾ to 3 lbs.; and 7 Grilse.

In consequence of frequent and unusual heavy rains, the River, during the whole time, continued too high for good fishing, and in consequence a number of the best Pools were so flooded as to prevent the fish from lying therein, or at least taking the Fly as freely as in former seasons.

Ottawa, 31st July, 1869.

STATEMENT OF SALMON FISHING at River Godbout, from 17th June to 16th July, 1870.

Date.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.								Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	Dr. Campbell, Montreal.		A. Urquhart, Montreal.		A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		D. Law, Montreal.			
	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.		
June 17 ..	7	92	2	30	6	66	1	11	16	199
" 18...	6	63	4	38	8	80	0	0	18	181
" 20...	3	33	10	117	3	31	7	75	23	256
" 21...	5	57	0	0	7	83	4	39	16	179
" 22..	1	10	1	12	1	18	5	59	8	99
" 23...	10	129	2	21	1	11	4	45	17	206
" 24...	2	20	5	59	7	65	5	65	19	209
" 25...	1	9	2	24	16	191	4	43	23	267
" 27...	4	38	4	34	2	21	13	156	23	249
" 28...	15	166	1	10	3	29	3	40	22	245
" 29...	3	36	8	81	2	19	2	21	15	157
" 30...	6	66	5	61	13	130	7	73	31	330
July 1...	4	45	4	42	4	41	6	60	18	188
" 2...	6	62	2	19	5	54	5	57	18	192
" 4...	3	31	9	105	2	35	4	43	18	214
" 5...	11	128	1	14	9	91	1	10	22	243
" 6...	2	8	1	9	2	21	9	90	14	138
	89	1003	61	676	91	986	80	887	321	3552
					C. F. Smith, Quebec.					
July 7...	8	73	0	0	3	32	1	17	12	122
" 8...	0	0	5	57	2	24	5	48	12	129
" 9...	3	31	1	11	3	28	2	19	9	89
" 11...	2	20	4	38	1	14	4	41	11	113
" 12...	6	59	0	0	1	8	1	14	8	81
" 13...	1	11	7	85	1	7	3	30	12	133
" 14...	1	10	1	8	2	21	0	0	4	39
" 15...	0	0	2	19	1	10	5	44	8	73
" 16...	1	7	0	0	1	10	0	0	2	17
Total...	111	1214	81	894	106	1140	101	1100	399	4348

On arriving at the river it was found to be unusually low, and in consequence there was no fishing in the lower pools, which in ordinary seasons give the best sport at the beginning. During the whole time of fishing only a few light showers fell, so that the water continued to fall steadily, and by the middle of July it had become lower than ever before known to any of those now acquainted with the river. No Kilt were caught this season.

OTTAWA, July, 1870.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, from the 15th June to the 15th July, 1871.

Date.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.										Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A Gilmour Ottawa.		D Law, Montreal.		A Cross, Q.C., Montreal.		D Gilmour, Marchmont Quebec.		A T Patterson, Montreal.			
	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weigh Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.		
June 15....	×	...	×	...	×	...	5	49			5	49
" 16....	×	...	×	...	1	9	..	...			1	9
" 17....	×	...	7	58	2	15	1	11			10	84
" 19....	7	77	7	78	4	52	5	45			23	252
" 20....	1	14	3	36	4	40	7	77			15	167
" 21....	2	27	3	34	6	68	3	30			14	159
" 22....	3	30	2	54	×	...	6	68			11	152
" 23....	4	50	6	65	4	52	6	67			20	234
" 24....	6	71	8	97	7	97	8	91			29	356
" 26....	6	70	7	89	6	56	4	39			23	254
" 27....	4	32	2	24	9	102	1	9			16	167
" 28....	10	144	6	73	1	12	5	62			22	291
" 29....	4	63	7	73	4	52	5	54			20	242
" 30....	10	104	2	19	2	24	4	65			18	212
July 1....	7	75	7	82	4	41	..	...			18	198
" 3....	1	11	8	113	Left.		12	132			21	256
" 4....	2	21	6	62			9	109			17	192
" 5....	9	97	12	154			5	60			26	311
" 6....	4	42	3	25			11	119	6	69	24	255
" 7....	5	59	3	35			10	106	22	233	40	433
" 8....	6	74	3	32			13	145	9	100	31	351
" 10....	1	11	4	45			Left.		8	107	13	163
" 11....	9	83	..	...					6	56	15	139
" 12....	×	...	4	44					18	183	22	227
" 13....	1	10	19	198					4	38	24	246
" 14....	×	...	×	...					20	210	20	210
" 15....	×	...	11	112					×	...	11	112
	102	1165	140	1602	54	620	120	1338	93	996	509	5721

× Did not fish on days so marked.

Water very high all the time of fishing, and about one-half the fish were caught in the pools below the camp.

RECAPITULATION.

A. Gilmour.....	Ottawa....	102	fish, weighing	1165	lbs.
D. Law.....	Montreal ..	140	" "	1602	"
A. Cross, Q.C.....	Montreal ..	54	" "	620	"
D. Gilmour, Marchmont, Quebec....		120	" "	1338	"
A. T. Patterson.....	Montreal ..	93	" "	996	"

Average weight of fish $11\frac{24}{100}$ lbs.

STATEMENT OF SALMON FISHING at River Godbout, by four Rods, from 20th June to 9th July, 1872.

DATE.	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.								Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		David Law, Montreal.		T. B. Meigs, Jersey City, N.Y.		aptain Dick, Toronto,			
	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.		
June 20...	3	37	2	32	*	..	..	..	5	69
" 21...	*	..	*	..	2	20	..	..	2	20
" 22...	4	44	1	11	1	10	..	..	6	65
" 24...	5	56	11	127	7	68	..	..	23	251
" 25...	2	16	2	20	5	55	..	..	9	91
" 26...	12	136	5	48	2	22	..	..	19	206
" 27...	1	11	14	164	2	21	..	..	17	196
" 28...	10	120	6	75	12	127	..	..	28	322
" 29...	4	41	12	141	1	11	..	..	17	194
July 1...	5	58	10	98	2	18	..	..	17	174
" 2...	3	30	3	28	..	..	..	..	6	58
" 3...	6	64	11	110	..	..	..	..	17	174
" 4...	1	9	4	43	..	..	..	..	5	52
" 5...	3	37	11	132	..	..	..	..	14	169
" 6...	8	73	5	48	..	..	..	..	13	121
" 8...	1	11	2	20	..	..	11	96	14	127
" 9...	*	..	*	..	..	..	5	60	5	60
	68	743	99	1098	34	352	16	156	217	2349

* Did not fish on days so marked.
Water too low for good fishing.

STATEMENT OF SALMON FISHING at River Godbout, from 19th June to 12th July, 1873.

Date.	Number and Weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.										Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A Gilmour Ottawa.		A. Cross, Montreal.		R. Muir, Montreal.		G Denholm Montreal.		Earl and Countess of Dufferin and party			
	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight. Lbs.		
June 19....	3	55	3	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	89
" 20....	2	22	4	55	1	11	...	...	...	...	7	88
" 21....	3	35	1	13	...	...	...	...	...	..	4	48
" 23....	3	29	...	...	2	19	...	...	...	...	5	48
" 24....	×	...	5	68	1	11	...	...	...	...	6	79
" 25....	×	...	2	30	×	...	...	...	...	...	2	30
" 26....	×	...	×	...	×	...	...	...	3	31	3	31
" 27....	×	...	×	...	×	...	...	...	4	40	4	40
" 28....	1	12	3	32	5	66	...	...	...	...	9	110
" 30....	25	273	5	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	341
July 1....	×	...	7	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	84
" 2....	×	...	...	...	1	10	...	...	...	...	1	10
" 3....	5	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	54
" 4....	×	...	2	21	1	9	...	...	...	...	3	30
" 5....	1	11	1	7	2	18	...	...	...	..	4	36
" 7....	6	61	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	...	7	71
" 8....	×	...	10	107	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	107
" 9....	×	...	3	42	2	18	1	8	...	...	6	68
" 10....	1	8	1	8	1	10	1	10	...	...	4	36
" 11....	×	...	8	86	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	86
" 12....	×	...	...	...	1	9	...	...	...	...	1	9
	50	560	55	655	17	181	3	28	7	71	132	1495

× Not fishing.

The water in the river was found very low on the arrival of the party, and remained so during all the time they were there, which was considered the reason why the salmon did not take as well as usual.

Statement of Salmon Fishing at River Godbout, from 27th June to 7th July, 1874.

Date.	Number and Weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.								Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	A. Gilmour, Ottawa.		David Law, Montreal.		Rev. D. M. Gordon, Ottawa,		R. W. Sheperd, Montreal.			
	No. Fish	Weight Lbs	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No. Fish	Weight Lbs.	No Fish	Weight Lbs.		
June 27....	5	52	12	132	3	30	4	51	24	265
" 29....	4	36	10	103	5	48	7	82	26	269
July 1....	7	83	13	141	7	85	8	99	35	408
" 2....	13	140	11	118	10	122	6	72	40	452
" 3....	×	..	14	153	7	68	×	..	21	221
" 4....	12	174	17	184	9	91	7	74	45	523
" 6....	8	86	24	336	2	21	2	18	36	461
" 7....	×	..	×	..	20	221	×	..	20	221
	49	571	101	1167	63	686	34	396	247	2820
Occasional chiefly on day of arrival at Camp	5	54	8	73	2	21	2	19	17	167
	54	625	109	1240	65	707	36	415	264	2987
Caught by the Guardian.....									9	90
									273	3077

× Not fishing on days so marked.

Caught afterwards by Napoleon A. Comeau, *(River Guardian), the best fishing ever done in the world.*

Date.	Fish.	Weight.	Date.	Fish.	Weight.	Total, Fish.	Total, Weight.
July 8.....	7	80	July 18.....	28	286		
" 9.....	57	634	" 20.....	27	273		
" 10.....	25	282	" 21.....	13	124		
" 11.....	34	361	" 22.....	20	198		
" 13.....	40	438	" 23.....	6	63		
" 14.....	25	253	" 24.....	3	30		
" 15.....	16	172	" 27.....	3	33		
" 16.....	37	394	" 28.....	2	19		
" 17.....	16	186	" 31.....	1	28		
	257	2800		103	1054	360	3854
					Grilse.	5	19
						365	3873

The water was at a good medium height all the season, being the best condition for successful fishing on the Godbout.

STATEMENT OF SALMON FISHING at River Godbout, by three rods, from 28th June to 8th July, 1875.

DATE	Number and weight of Salmon by each Rod daily.						Total Number of Fish daily.	Total Weight of Fish daily.
	DAVID LAW, Montreal.		R. W. SHEPHERD Montreal.		ROBERT MUIR, Montreal.			
	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs.	Number of Fish.	Weight. Lbs		
June 28.....	6	64	4	40	12	158	22	262
" 29.....	2	23	5	61	1	11	8	95
" 30.....	20	280	3	33	1	11	24	324
July 1.....	7	73	1	8	8	74	16	155
" 2.....	4	43	3	31	5	54	12	128
" 3.....	7	91	3	26	3	31	13	148
" 5.....	5	47	3	30	7	79	15	156
" 6.....	9	97	8	76	5	50	22	223
" 7.....	16	163	6	62	1	10	23	235
" 8.....	5	49	3	26	14	135	22	210
	81	930	39	393	57	613	177	1936

July 9.—Caught by Mark Molson and his son, Montreal ..... 8 Fish, weight not known

Caught shortly after by P. Macnaughton and son, Quebec..... 11 " " "

The River Godbout.

Contributed by one of its now oldest Salmon Fishers.

Again on the Godbout's banks we've met
With trusty rod in hand,
And envy not the greatest Prince
Who reigns o'er happiest land.

For here from the world's cares we're free
Beneath a genial sky,
While under the rippling waters bright
The silvery salmon lie.

Ready to test the utmost skill
Of the lover of angling art,
And give to the startled nerves a thrill
That pulses from the heart.

Then come with me to the "Upper Pool,"
Well known on thy glorious stream,
And prove for thyself, if doubter thou art,
That its treasures are not a dream.

And take thy stand on the "Gravel Bank,"
Where the water glides swiftly by,
And over its surface lightly cast
The tempting "Fairy Fly."

It touches the water,—a moment floats,—
Then quickly disappears;
With a magic tug! and the line runs out!
Now Piscator comes thy fears!

Still hope prevails o'er every fear
That the victory will be thine,
Should no mishap occur in the fight
To break thy fragile line.

But a ready hand and watchful eye
Alone will success command,
And bring the gallant, tho' conquered fish,
At last to the Gaffman's hand.

Oft when "Salmo Salar" has seized the lure,
Quickly down in the water he goes;
But soon discovering the mistake he's made,
He tugs and shakes his nose.

But all in vain—so he angry gets
And perhaps, as a fish may—swears
But be that as it may, he soon dashes off,
And away through the water tears.

The line now runs out with lightning speed,—
The reel gives its music sweet;
But dependence on these alone won't do,
So be ready with nimble feet.

For down the stream he may take a rush,
In his madness to break away;
When thou must be ready to follow him up,
Or assuredly lose the day.

Again, in his rage, to clear the hook,
With a spring he will dart in the air;
And his frantic bounds again repeat,
Which will claim thy anxious care.

Then thou must be ready with courtier's ease
His vaulting feats to greet,—
Quickly lower your rod and make your bow,
Or misfortune you'll surely meet.

Your line will be snapped like a spider's web,
When off goes the hoped-for prize;
But then too late, you may stamp and rave
Who such acts polite despise.

At last the dubious fight is o'er,—
The battle's been fought and won;
And the coveted prize lies safe ashore,
A beauty!—a twenty-pounder good!
Hurra! a prettier Salmon sure
Was ne'er seen beneath the sun!